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LETTER DATED 2 NOVEMBER 1967 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to convey, on behalf of the United States Government as the Unified Command, established by Security Council resolution 84 - 7 July 1950 (S/1538), the enclosed report from the United Nations Command regarding the current situation along the Demilitarized Zone in Korea. This report is made pursuant to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council to draw to the attention of the Council and all Members of the United Nations the recent sharp increase in the scope and intensity of the North Korean military attacks and other armed activity in Korea in violation of the Military Armistice Agreement signed 27 July 1953.

I request that this report be circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Arthur J. GOLDBERG

State Dept. declassification & release instructions on file

REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ON THE INCREASE IN VIOLATIONS BY NORTH KOREA OF THE
MILITARY ARMISTICE AGREEMENT IN KOREA

The Government of the United States, in its capacity as the Unified Command, deems it necessary to submit this special report of the United Nations Command to call the attention of the Security Council to a drastic increase in violations by North Korea of the Military Armistice Agreement of 27 July 1953 and subsequent agreements pertaining thereto. So far this year there has been a total of 543 incidents, in contrast to 50 incidents in 1956, resulting from the infiltration into the Republic of Korea from North Korea of armed agent teams for the purpose of setting ambushes, laying mines, and performing raids near the Demilitarized Zone and engaging in other subversive activities in the interior of the Republic of Korea. These deliberate actions by North Korean armed personnel, apart from causing serious casualties, constitute clear evidence of North Korea's continued unwillingness to keep faith with the Armistice provisions and raise serious doubts about its attitude toward the promotion of peace and stability in the area.

Infiltration by land

The series of recent violations by North Korean armed personnel have taken place inside the territory of the Republic of Korea - some within the two-kilometer wide Demilitarized Zone south of the Military Demarcation Line, some in Republic of Korea territory to the south of that zone. North Korean armed raiders and reconnaissance teams - ranging from small groups of six to nine men up to a group of about sixty, in one case - have entered the Republic of Korea by overland infiltration across the Military Demarcation Line. There, in carefully planned and reconnoitered operations, they have attacked DMZ police forces and installations of the United Nations Command rightfully located within the southern half of the Demilitarized Zone. In addition, North Korean infiltrators have concealed numerous mines in the roads of the United Nations Command portion of the Demilitarized Zone and south of the Demilitarized Zone. In one recent incident, North Korean personnel attacked with automatic weapons an engineering unit of the United Nations Command just south of the Demilitarized

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Zone, inflicting numerous casualties. This unit was engaged solely in road construction and other work in the neutral joint security area near Panmunjon where meetings of the Military Armistice Commission are held. In another instance, North Korean agents used high explosive charges to demolish two barracks buildings occupied by United Nations Command Forces two and a half kilometers south of the Demilitarized Zone.

Infiltration by sea

Since early June of this year, in addition to overland infiltration, numerous North Korean armed bands have been landed from the sea in several areas in the southern part of the Republic of Korea. Once ashore, they have attempted unsuccessfully to organize a form of guerrilla activity. Over twenty of these armed infiltrator bands have been identified. Nearly all of these North Korean infiltrators have been captured, killed or dispersed by the effective action of the Republic of Korea National Police, supported by Republic of Korea military forces, and, most importantly, by the universal and most effective assistance of the civilian population. In order to carry out these operations, the North Koreans have assembled a fleet of very fast agent-team delivery boats. From the examination of those boats which have been captured, they are seventy-five to eighty-five feet in length, armed, and capable of carrying thirty to forty personnel with equipment.

Identity of infiltrators

There is no question that the infiltrators, both in the Demilitarized Zone and in the interior of the Republic of Korea, have been introduced from North Korea.

They are clothed and equipped with weapons and accoutrements manufactured or acquired in North Korea. They speak for the most part with North Korean accents. Every one of the infiltrators captured in actions this year has admitted freely that he was trained in and dispatched from North Korea.

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Casualties caused by infiltration

As a result of this North Korean infiltration by land and by sea, there have been 144 military and civilian persons killed and 332 wounded by North Korean infiltrators, as shown by the following table of incidents and casualties:

	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967 (to 13 October)</u>
Significant incidents:			
DMZ area	42	37	423
Interior of ROK	17	13	120
Exchanges of fire:			
DMZ area	23	19	117
Interior of ROK	6	11	95
North Koreans killed within ROK	4	43	224
North Koreans captured within ROK	51	19	50
UNC personnel killed within ROK	21	35	122
UNC personnel wounded within ROK	6	29	279
ROK National Police and other civilians killed	19	4	22
ROK National Police and other civilians wounded	13	5	53

Violations of the Armistice Agreement

The North Korean infiltration into the Demilitarized Zone and the interior of the Republic of Korea, apart from causing heavy human casualties, has involved in every case violations of the letter and/or spirit of the Armistice Agreement of 1953.

In the first instance, North Korea's failure to respect the integrity of the territory of the Demilitarized Zone and the interior of the Republic of Korea constitutes a violation of paragraph 7 of the Armistice Agreement.

Secondly, the action of North Korean infiltrators bringing automatic weapons, grenades, explosives and other lethal armaments into the Demilitarized Zone and the interior of the Republic of Korea constitutes a violation of paragraphs 6, 9, 10 and 14 of the Armistice Agreement.

Thirdly, the North Koreans have shown themselves unwilling to co-operate with the machinery established by the Armistice Agreement (the Military Armistice Commission and its related organization), machinery designed to supervise the implementation of the Agreement and to investigate and settle through negotiations any violations of the Agreement.

The incidents outlined above clearly come under the purview of the Military Armistice Commission. The United Nations Command has attempted to use the Commission for its stated purpose, i.e. to supervise implementation and investigate violations of the Agreement. For their part the North Korean authorities have shown themselves unwilling to co-operate in enabling the Commission to carry out its assigned mission. They have, for example, almost invariably refused to permit Joint Observer Teams, the composition and duties of which are set forth in the Armistice Agreement, to investigate violations; nor has the North Korean Senior Member consented to follow orderly procedures for the conduct of Commission business. The North Korean Senior Member consistently disavows any responsibility for violations of the Armistice Agreement, even when confronted with incontestable evidence to the contrary, and while refusing investigation by Joint Observer Teams. Instead, he has used the Commission to conduct propaganda attacks, seeking to shift responsibility for the incidents to United Nations Command forces.

Conclusions

The United Nations Command has shown great forbearance in the face of the North Korean performance in the Military Armistice Commission. The United Nations Command has also exercised the greatest restraint in the face of armed North Korean attacks; despite the great dangers involved for the lives and security of its own personnel and armed forces and civilians of the Republic of Korea.

Such military actions as have been taken by the Command stem from the overriding necessity to take appropriate measures for the safety of the people of the Republic of Korea and United Nations Command personnel. These

defensive measures have been taken and will continue to be taken so long as North Korean actions in violation of the Armistice Agreement make them necessary. An improved defensive security system is being constructed south of the Demilitarized Zone to aid in preventing infiltration and raids.

The United Nations Command reaffirms its readiness and determination, consistent with the provisions of the relevant Security Council resolutions, to preserve peace and security in Korea. To this end, the United Nations Command will continue to ensure the safety and security of the people of the Republic of Korea. The United Nations Command, moreover, will continue to seek the co-operation of North Korean representatives on the Military Armistice Commission in order to undertake more meaningful measures for the reduction - in number and scope - of Armistice violations, to conduct joint investigations of specific incidents, to decrease tensions in the Demilitarized Zone, and to establish a more peaceful atmosphere throughout Korea.